MUNDO OBRERO
WORKERS WORLD

Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite!
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Workers' resistance against Microsoft

By Jim McMahan
Seattle

As the United Nations' world food crisis authority finally declared a famine in Gaza, direct action demonstrators protested war profiteer Microsoft, whose technology is used to aid the U.S./Israeli war, which is committing genocide in Gaza.

After months of protests in Seattle, on Aug. 20 and 21 worker-led activists took the struggle to Microsoft's vast campus in Redmond, Washington, where No Azure for Apartheid and Bilyad Seattle exposed Microsoft's complicity.

On Aug. 20, around 35 current and former Microsoft workers and solidarity activists set up a protest encampment on the East Campus Plaza of Microsoft. They claimed it as the Martyred Palestinian Children's Plaza. They left when Microsoft asked them to leave, but returned the next day and declared their occupation is not going anywhere!

These activists demonstrated and were seen by many of the workers on the campus. They refused to leave, upholding the righteousness of their cause. Then the Redmond cops and state troopers attacked and brutalized the worker-led demonstrators. They were attacked for peacefully protesting Microsoft's crimes in aiding the war on Gaza. Red paint, representing the blood of the Palestinians, was spread across the plaza. Twenty demonstrators were arrested.

According to the Aug. 6 Guardian, the Israeli occupation forces use Microsoft's Azure Cloud computing platform to store call data obtained through the mass surveillance of Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank. The Associated Press has reported about Microsoft's close relationship with the Israeli Ministry of Defense, with the military's use of artificial intelligence skyrocketing nearly 200 times since October 7, 2023.

Microsoft is near the top of the world of capitalist exploitation with an enterprise value of $3.79 trillion. Even with their wealth, they laid off 15,000 workers in May and June of this year. The company represents a merger of hi-tech corporations with the big Pentagon contractors, Big Oil and the imperialist banks in forcing war and occupation throughout West Asia and around the world.

On Aug. 23, demonstrations were held in eight cities around the U.S. against hi-tech Pentagon contractor Palantir Technologies. Demonstrators at the corporation's office in Seattle loudly protested the violence-producing effects of Palantir technology in Palestine and domestically against migrant workers. ☐

PHOTO: NO AZURE FOR APARTHEID

No Azure for Apartheid demonstration on Microsoft's campus in Redwood, Washington, Aug. 20, 2025.

Rally to 'Free Xóchitl' at City Hall in Philadelphia, Aug. 20, 2025. WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

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Join us in the fight for socialism!

Workers World Party is a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We are a multinational, multigenerational and multigendered organization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society because it's the only way forward!

Capitalism and imperialism threaten the peoples of the world and the planet itself in the neverending quest for ever-greater profits.

Capitalism means war and austerity, racism and repression, attacks on im/migrants, misogyny, LGBTQIA2S+ oppression and mistreatment of people with disabilities. It means joblessness, increasing homelessness and impoverishment and lack of hope for the future. No social problems can be solved under capitalism.

The U.S. is the richest country in the world, yet no one has a guaranteed right to shelter, food, water, health care, education or anything else — unless they can pay for it. Wages are lower than ever, and youth are saddled with seemingly insurmountable student debt, if they even make it to college. Black, Brown and Indigenous youth and trans people are gunned down by cops and bigots on a regular basis.

The ruthless ruling class today seeks to wipe out decades of gains and benefits won by hard-fought struggles by people's movements. The super-rich and their political representatives have intensified their attacks on the multinational, multigender and multigenerational working class. It is time to point the blame at — and challenge — the capitalist system.

WWP fights for socialism because the working class produces all wealth in society, and this wealth should remain in their hands, not be stolen in the form of capitalist profits. The wealth workers create should be socially owned and its distribution planned to satisfy and guarantee basic human needs.

Since 1959, Workers World Party has been out in the streets defending the workers and oppressed here and worldwide. If you're interested in Marxism, class solidarity, and joining us in the fight for a socialist future, please sign up at **www.workers.org/join-form** and an organizer will get back to you. Or contact a WWP branch near you. □

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D.C. martial law criminalizes Black people

By Janisse Miles

The following remarks were made at an Aug. 22, 2025, Workers World Party meeting in New York City in honor of Black August.

On Aug. 11, Donald Trump declared a state of emergency in Washington, D.C., to combat a supposed crime rise, claiming that, "Our capital city has been overtaken by violent gangs and bloodthirsty criminals, roving mobs of wild youth, drugged-out maniacs and homeless people."

But when looking at the statistics, according to Meg Anderson, the criminal justice reporter of National Public Radio, not only has crime fallen since the aftermath of the COVID-19 [crisis of 2020], but by the Justice Department's records, violent crime in D.C. hit a 30-year low in 2024 — including a homicide decrease of over 10%, a 30% decrease in robberies and a 40% decrease in carjackings. And yet, about 800 National Guard troops were released into the city, racking up over 600 arrests and counting. So why would Trump do this?

Activist take part in a protest against President Donald Trump in Washington, D.C. on Aug. 16, 2025.

1) Racism: The White House is no stranger to weaponizing the National Guard against Black people, the last time being to suppress the protests in 2020 following the police murder of George Floyd. And when crime is discussed, describing the perpetrators as bloodthirsty, drugged-out maniacs, the people that this is supposed to stir strong emotion in do not imagine a white face.

Speaking of faces, on the very same day, Aug. 11, at 5:01 p.m., the official White House Twitter, aka X, posted a thread featuring seven uncensored photos (not mugshots) of private citizens at their time of arrest with their hands tied behind their back, claiming that they are just a few of the 37 "criminals" arrested that night. Below the photo states their allegation, such as "possession of a firearm."

Out of these seven photos, six of the subjects are Black, with five involving a firearm offense and one involving assault. The only non-Black face also has the only non-violent offense displayed, "unauthorized use of a vehicle," and the only face looking sadly at the camera. Unsurprisingly, this is the arrest that the commenting supporters feel the most sorry for, claiming that he shouldn't be there amongst the "drug dealers and killers."

The White House is ensuring that Black people remain the face of violent crime so that when the National Guard continues to terrorize the communities within the once predominately Black District of Columbia, the public will assume that they are simply criminals getting what's coming to them, and they will receive less support from the people around them as the troops violate their human rights more brazenly by the day.

2) Boundary testing: Trump is currently trying to see how much he can get away with before facing consequences, which he hasn't faced yet, or ever. D.C. is the easiest area he can sic a national militia on, because it does not have statehood, and therefore the National Guard answers directly to the president with no governors to get in the way. He also reveals his hit list of other cities he intends to take control over: Chicago, Los Angeles, Baltimore, Oakland and of course New York City. All places with a high concentration of Black people per capita.

3) Is New York next? And the answer is of course it is! With the federal arrest of Comptroller Brad Lander in June for trying to protect a migrant who ICE wanted to kidnap and the ongoing call for the deportation of mayoral candidate Zohran Mamdani for being Brown, Trump is salivating at the opportunity to dominate or disappear any New York government official who doesn't take his bribes or bend to his whims. And because we know the U.S. ruling class will not protect anyone who does not serve their interests, we only have each other to rely on.

We need to prepare for the violence marching towards our doorsteps and prepare our neighbors too. While even the most liberal of the left have properly utilized the action of recording brutality, we need to become knowledgeable on how to defend ourselves against armed oppressors and how to de-arrest others, instead of only being the shocked bystanders behind a camera. This is not just a test for this administration to see what they can get away with, but a test for us and what we are willing to take. ☐

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Solidarity with Palestine Action!

Trafalgar Square, central London protest, June 23, 2025.

In July, the solidarity group Palestine Action was "proscribed" — banned — by the British government for allegedly violating the Terrorism Act, passed by Parliament in 2000. The Act prohibits "serious damage to property" even when no human beings are hurt. In the case of Palestine Action, the fact that the group allegedly broke into Royal Air Force Brize Norton and damaged two military planes by spraying paint in the engines was enough to get the group proscribed.

RAF Brize Norton is complicit in genocide in Gaza. Associated Press reports that "Planes from Brize Norton, 70 miles (112 kilometers) northwest of London, regularly fly to RAF Akrotiri in Cyprus, Britain's main air base for operations in the Middle East." A Jan. 28 report by the British Palestinian Committee defined this base as a "foundational asset" for Israel's ethnic cleansing operation in Gaza. (aljazeera.com, Jan. 28)

On its website, the RAF boasts: "RAF Brize Norton, in Oxfordshire, is the largest RAF Station with approximately 5,800 service personnel, 300 civilian staff and 1,200 contractors."

Palestine Action previously engaged in attacks on the notorious, Israel-based Elbit Systems, which manufactures weapons used to murder Palestinians.

The legislation passed that bans Palestine Action makes it a crime punishable by up to 14 years imprisonment for not only belonging to the group but supporting it. Supporters include hundreds of people arrested under the Terrorism Act for demonstrating against the ban, as well as celebrities, such as Irish novelist Sally Rooney and English film director Ken Loach.

In the view of the British government, spraying paint is a crime but committing genocide against Palestinians is not only acceptable but worthy of assistance.

Palestine Action is not alone in experiencing severe government repression. Samidoun, the Palestinian Prisoner Solidarity Network, has been targeted in multiple European countries as well as the U.S. and Canada. U.S. activists supporting Palestine have been arrested, deported, fired and suspended from school.

Workers World is in full solidarity with Palestine Action and activists around the world who support Palestinian liberation and who side with the Palestinian Resistance. We understand that a multiplicity of tactics have been and will be employed, and we support every effort to stop the horrific genocide taking place in Palestine.

We refuse to be swayed by attempts to divide the solidarity movement into "good protesters" who only stage "peaceful demonstrations" and "bad protesters" who "damage property." We do not recognize the sanctity of private or government property, especially when that property is used to the benefit of the terrorist apartheid state of Israel.

End the ban on Palestine Action! Solidarity is not a crime!

From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free! ❐

Yemen denounces Israel's attacks on Sana'a, its capital

The Government of Change and Construction in Sana'a, Yemen (Ansarallah) made the following statement on Aug. 23, 2025, released by Resistance News Network.

The "israeli" enemy launched a brutal aggression this afternoon on the capital [of Yemen] Sana'a, targeting vital facilities with its usual criminality.

The vital Hazeiz power station, which illuminates the homes of innocents and powers hospitals for children and the sick, was subjected to barbaric shelling that led to widespread destruction and a power outage. The Zionist aggression also targeted a fuel station for cars, in a despicable attempt to paralyze life and disrupt citizens' livelihoods and to create an illusory victory with rising columns of smoke.

This blatant, cold-blooded aggression on the free and dear land of Yemen is nothing but a new episode in the ongoing Zionist criminality and a heinous war crime added to its black record. It is a clear aggression against the sovereignty of Yemen and its noble people and a blatant challenge to the Yemeni will that has stood and continues to stand firmly in the trench of truth, defending the holy sites and our oppressed brethren in Palestine, especially in steadfast Gaza.

We hold the Zionist enemy and its direct U.S. partner fully responsible for the dire consequences of this treacherous assault and heinous crime and for the resulting casualties in lives, property and vital infrastructure.

This aggression proves that the Zionist enemy, with direct U.S. support, is waging an open war against the Arab and Islamic nation and does not hesitate to violate the sovereignty of states and threaten their security and stability.

We affirm that these brutal raids will not deter the great Yemeni people from their firm and legitimate stance of full and absolute support for our people in besieged Gaza, who are subjected to a full-fledged crime of genocide. Supporting Palestine is a religious, national and humanitarian duty, and it is a red line that cannot be compromised or abandoned.

We also reaffirm Yemen's right, as any sovereign state, to defend itself, its land and its holy sites, to deter any aggression and to take all necessary measures to protect its national security and repel Zionist aggression by all available means.

Allah is the greatest. Death to America. Death to "israel."

Victory for Yemen and Palestine! ❐

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¡Detengan la ley marcial en D.C.!
¡No a las tropas de asalto MAGA!

MUNDO OBRERO
editorial

Residentes protestan contra los planes de desplegar la Guardia Nacional en Washington, D.C., el 12 de agosto de 2025. Su lema: ¡Liberen a D.C.!

Es difícil seguir la pista de todas las numerosas violaciones de los derechos de las personas por parte de la administración Trump. Pero hay una a la que los trabajadores y los oprimidos deben prestar especial atención: El despliegue por parte de Trump de tropas de la Guardia Nacional para ocupar las comunidades negras y de migrantes en Washington, D.C., y su intento de hacerse cargo de la vigilancia policial en esa ciudad.

¿Por qué es importante? Porque es un caso de prueba para la ley marcial en zonas urbanas de clase trabajadora donde una gran parte de la población es gente de color - el caso de D.C. a pesar de la reciente caída en el porcentaje de residentes negros. Esto representa un esfuerzo por seguir limpiando étnicamente D.C. - mientras EE.UU. financia la limpieza étnica que Israel está cometiendo en Gaza y Cisjordania.

¿Qué comunidad negra histórica será la siguiente si se expulsa a los negros de D.C., donde muchos ya han sido expulsados por el aburguesamiento? ¿En qué otro lugar se fabricará una «emergencia», alegando falsas reclamaciones en torno a la delincuencia? ¿Detroit? ¿Harlem?

Además, si este caso de prueba resulta exitoso para la clase dominante, estas tácticas represivas podrían utilizarse contra cualquier sector de la clase trabajadora o del movimiento progresista, desde los trabajadores en huelga hasta los manifestantes contra la guerra. Las comunidades migrantes de todo el condado de Los Ángeles se enfrentan diariamente a la represión a manos del Servicio de Inmigración y Control de Aduanas (ICE) y de la Guardia Nacional.

Ninguna victoria significativa

No se deje engañar por las afirmaciones de los medios de comunicación capitalistas de que los partidarios del autogobierno para la capital de Estados Unidos se anotaron alguna victoria significativa en relación con el acuerdo entre el Departamento de Justicia y la oficina del fiscal general del Distrito de Columbia, Brian Schwalb. El jefe de la Administración para el Control de Drogas, Terry Cole, a quien la fiscal general Pam Bondi eligió como «jefe de policía de emergencia» de D.C., fue simplemente degradado a «designado» de Bondi.

No está claro qué poder tiene Cole, pero la orden emitida por Bondi sigue obligando a la policía de D.C. a «ayudar en las operaciones de aplicación de la ley de inmigración y a cumplir con las consultas de las bases de datos y las solicitudes de información de cualquier entidad federal de aplicación de la ley», poniendo fin al estatus de ciudad santuario, según NBC News. (15 de agosto)

Los agentes militarizados del ICE funcionan como tropas de asalto fascistas. Schwalb, demócrata, se jacta de que «la jefa [Pamela] Smith sigue al mando del departamento de policía bajo la supervisión de nuestra alcaldesa», con la toma de posesión en marcha. Esto demuestra hasta qué punto el Partido Demócrata ha capitulado ante la presión de la derecha.

Mientras tropas de la Guardia Nacional de varios estados ocupan D.C., el estatus colonial de la ciudad vuelve a quedar claro. Sus habitantes pagan los impuestos per cápita más altos del país y, sin embargo, no tienen ningún representante con derecho a voto en el Congreso.

Mientras los activistas discuten la construcción de un frente unido contra el fascismo y el imperialismo, una demanda en torno a la que movilizarse será «tropas de asalto fuera de D.C.» - o dondequiera que los envíen después. □

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